## **ABSTRACT**

A subscriber unit which prevents the transmission of data between communicating nodes until the data communication rate required by the communicating nodes has been established selectively suppresses the confirmation tone that a receiving node sends to an originating node. The transmission of voice, facsimile or modem data is prevented until the communication path has been established at the desired communication rate. This permits the subscriber unit to reliably transport encoded data at a plurality of data rates without precise synchronization.